

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2011-93-C - ORDER NO. 2011-242
APRIL 13, 2011

IN RE:	Petition of Frontier Communications of the Carolinas, Inc. Requesting the Commission's Intervention in Numbering Resources Determinations in the Sumter Rate Center)	ORDER REVERSING NUMBERING DETERMINATION
)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Petition of Frontier Communications of the Carolinas, Inc. (“Frontier” or the “Company”) for review of the North American Numbering Plan Administration’s and/or the Pooling Administrator’s (collectively “NANPA/PA” also known as “Central Office Code Administration”) central office code numbering resources decision to deny the Company’s request for numbering resources in the Sumter Rate Center (803 Area Code). Specifically, Frontier states that Shaw Air Force Base has submitted a request to Frontier for an additional 10,000 NXX DID block assignment in the Sumter exchange. The Company states that with these additional 10,000 blocks, Shaw Air Force Base will be able to accommodate increasing staff and personnel throughout the military institution. According to Frontier, it submitted this request to NANPA/PA because it does not have the numbers to meet its customer’s request, but it was denied. Frontier asks that the Commission reverse NANPA/PA’s denial.

NANPA/PA's refusal stems from the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") "rate center" basis for determining the need for new numbering resources. Under FCC rules, carriers must exhaust their numbering inventory within six months of the application and meet a rate center utilization threshold of 75 percent in order to receive additional numbering resources. However, the record reveals that the Dillon Rate Center was more than six months from exhausting its inventory and was using 54.69 percent of its numbering resources.

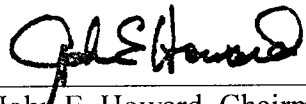
Although Frontier fails to meet NANPA/PA's requirements, the FCC maintains a policy that "under no circumstances should customers be precluded from receiving telecommunications services of their choice from providers of their choice for want of numbering resources." FCC 000-429 at ¶ 61. To this end, the FCC allows carriers to challenge a NANPA/PA decision at the appropriate state regulatory commission. FCC 01-362 at ¶¶ 61-66; Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines § 13.0. States may grant relief "if a carrier demonstrates that it has received a request for numbering resources in a given rate center that it cannot meet with its current inventory." FCC 01-362 at ¶ 64.

We find that the South Carolina Public Service Commission, as the regulator of the rates and service of telecommunications companies under the authority of S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-210 et seq., has the authority under both the FCC's rules and the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines to review a decision by NANPA/PA denying a request for numbering resources. We further find that Frontier has demonstrated receipt of a customer request for numbering resources that it cannot meet with its current

inventory. It is our opinion that these additional numbering resources are necessary for Frontier to provide its customer with the required telecommunications service. Consequently, we hold that NANPA/PA is directed to approve Frontier's request.

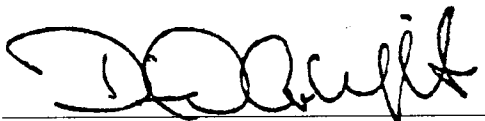
This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THIS COMMISSION:



John E. Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:



David A. Wright, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)